EXHIBIT "B" - PENDING CLAIMS

1   1. (Amended) A pre-paid airline ticket comprising a record of an advance-purchase of an

2   airline ticket for a fixed price to be utilized by a customer to book a flight, the pre-paid airline

3   ticket including an identifier, the identifier uniquely identifying the pre-paid airline ticket and

4   operable to be utilized by the customer to book a flight, and, associated with the identifier, a

5   plurality of geographic flight parameters and a plurality of non-geographic flight parameters, at

6   least one of the plurality of geographic flight parameters being unspecified.

1   2.   The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 wherein the identifier comprises an alpha-

2   numeric sequence.

1   3.   The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 wherein the plurality of non-geographic

2   flight parameters comprise a date, a time, a flight number, and a seat.

1   4.   The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 wherein the plurality of non-geographic

2   flight parameters further comprise one or more unspecified non-geographic flight parameters.

1   5.   The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 4 wherein the one or more unspecified non-

2   geographic flight parameters comprise a range of possible values from which the one or more

3   unspecified non-geographic flight parameters may be selected.

1 6. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 wherein the plurality of geographic flight

2 parameters comprise a departure location and a destination.

1 7. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising a dependence between

2 two or more of the plurality of geographic flight parameters.

1 8. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a

2 maximum distance between the destination and the departure location.

1 9. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a

2 geographical region from which the departure location and the destination must be selected.

1 10. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a

2 geographical region from which the departure location must be selected for a specified

3 destination.

1 11. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a

2 geographical region from which the destination must be selected for a specified departure

3 location.

1 12. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising a wallet-sized card, the

2 wallet sized card including a magnetic strip, the magnetic strip comprising an encoded

3 representation of the unique identifier.

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1   13.   The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising a wallet-sized card, the

2   wallet-sized card including a bar code, the bard code comprising an encoded representation of

3   the unique identifier.

1   14.   The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising a printed receipt, the

2   printed receipt including a first part for presentation to an airline and a second part for a

3   customer's records, the printed receipt including, in printed form, the unique identifier, the

4   plurality of non-geographic flight parameters, and the plurality of geographic flight parameters.

1   15.   The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising an electronic receipt, the

2   electronic receipt including, in electronic form, the unique identifier.

1   16.   The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising an email receipt, the

2   email receipt including, in electronic form, the unique identifier.

1   34.   (Amended)   A method for providing pre-paid airline tickets comprising:

2   storing a plurality of ticket options in a ticket option database, each ticket option

3   comprising a ticket price and a plurality of flight parameters, at least one of the plurality of flight

4   parameters being a geographic flight parameter;

5   presenting the ticket options to a customer;

6   receiving a ticket selection from the customer;

7   receiving a payment from the customer, the payment being equal to the ticket

8   price;

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9   associating a unique identifier with the selected ticket option;

10   storing the unique identifier and the associated ticket option; and

11   providing a pre-paid airline ticket to the customer, the pre-paid airline ticket

12   comprising a record of the unique identifier operable to be utilized by the customer to book a

13   flight and a record of one or more of the plurality of flight parameters, at least one of the at least

14   one geographic flight parameter being unspecified.

1   35.   The method of claim 34 further comprising booking a flight using the pre-paid

2   airline ticket.

1   36.   The method of claim 35 wherein booking a flight is performed interactively using

2   the World Wide Web.

1   37.   The method of claim 34 further comprising periodically updating the ticket option

2   database from a remote airline server.

1   38.   The method of claim 34 wherein receiving a payment from the customer further

2   comprises transferring funds for the customer using a remote financial transaction server.

1   39.   The method of claim 34 wherein providing a pre-paid airline ticket further

2   comprises generating a wallet-sized card with the unique identifier encoded in a magnetic strip.

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1   40.   The method of claim 34 wherein providing a pre-paid airline ticket further

2   comprises generating a wallet-sized card with the unique identifier encoded in a bar code.

1   41.   The method of claim 34 wherein providing a pre-paid airline ticket further

2   comprises generating a printed receipt, the printed receipt including a first part for presentation

3   to an airline and a second part for the customer's records, the printed receipt including, in printed

4   form, the unique identifier and the plurality of flight parameters.

1   42   the method of claim 1 wherein a plurality of pre-paid airline tickets are provided

2   to a wholesale customer, the wholesale customer further reselling one or more of the pre-paid

3   airline tickets to a retail customer.

1   43.   The method of claim 1 further comprising providing an electronic bulleting board

2   where a plurality of customers resell pre-paid airline tickets.

1   44.   (Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium for

2   providing pre-paid airline tickets using a pre-paid ticket identifier database, the database

3   comprising a plurality of records, each record including a plurality of fields, the plurality of

4   fields comprising:

5   an identifier field, the identifier field including an identifier that uniquely

6   identifies a pre-paid airline ticket and operable to be utilized by a customer to book a flight; and

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7   a plurality of geographic flight parameter fields and a plurality of non-geographic

8   flight parameter fields, at least one of the plurality of geographic flight parameter fields

9   including an geographic flight parameter being unspecified.

1   45.   The computer program of claim 44 wherein the identifier included in the identifier

2   field comprises an alpha-numeric sequence.

1   46.   The computer program of claim 44 wherein the plurality of non-geographic flight

2   parameter fields include a restrictions field, the restrictions field including any restrictions on use

3   of an associated pre-paid airline ticket.

1   47.   The computer program of claim 44 wherein the unspecified geographic flight

2   parameter comprises a plurality of choices from which the unspecified geographic flight

3   parameter may be specified.

1   48.   The computer program of claim 44 wherein the plurality of geographic flight

2   parameter fields include an allowed destinations field and an allowed departures field.

1   49.   The computer program of claim 44 wherein the plurality of geographic flight

2   parameter fields includes a region field, the region field providing information which establishes

3   a dependence between an allowed destinations field and an allowed departures field.

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1   50.   (New) The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1, further comprising an expiration

2   date for the pre-paid airline ticket to expire.

1   51.   (New) The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 50, wherein the expiration date

2   specifies the date that the customer is to utilize the identifier in booking a flight.

1   52.   (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising applying an expiration date to

2   each ticket option.

1   53.   (New) The method of claim 52, further comprising receiving the identifier in

2   conjunction with a process of booking a flight.

1   54.   (New) The method of claim 53, further comprising, in response to receiving the

2   identifier, determining that the expiration date associated with the pre-paid airline ticket being

3   utilized to book the flight is on or before a current date.

1   55.   (New) The computer program of claim 44, wherein the records of the records of

2   the database further include an expiration date for an associated pre-paid airline ticket to expire.

1   56.   (New) The computer program of claim 44, further operable to receive the

2   identifier being uniquely associated with a pre-paid airline ticket and determine whether the pre-

3   paid airline ticket has expired based on the associated expiration date.

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